

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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80/908,672 00/03/91 EBY

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MM7170315

EXAMINER

RICHARD J. BIRCH
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WELLESLEY MA 02181

DUVERNE, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

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DATE MAILED: 06/16/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 08/908,872	Applicant(s) Eby, Richard L.
Examiner Jean Duverne	Group Art Unit 2839

Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 5, 1999

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) 21 and 22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) 8-12 is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-7 and 13-20 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

Substitute PTO-948

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 2839

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7,13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Wyatt (US patent 4,083,617)

1. For claim 1-7, Wyatt discloses the electrical connector 10 with housing 12, the rigid electrical contacts at 20 which comprise proximal and distal end and engaging surface. It is inherent to use to different type of engaging surface for the contacts connection base on the invention.

2. For claims 13-20, Wyatt teaches all features mentioned above including the intermediate portion and the web for connecting the contacts.

Response to Amendment

3. The response filed on 4/5/99 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but not persuasive to overcome the rejection of claims 1-7,13-20. The rigid electrical contacts added is also disclosed in Wyatt's system.

Art Unit: 2839

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Conclusion

Claims 8 and 9-12 are allowable because containing features such as the planar rigid contacts with substantially parallel planar engaging surface at the moment of the electrical engagement to permit repeatable electrical engagement with minimal *bounce*.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Duverne whose telephone number is (703) 305 - 0297. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

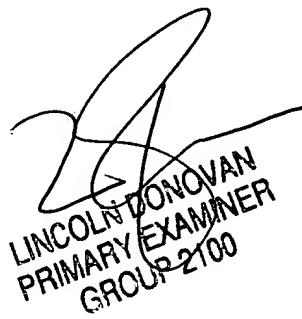
Art Unit: 2839

supervisor, Steven Stephan, can be reached on (703) 308 - 2826. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305 - 3432 .

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308- 1782.



June 14, 1999



LINCOLN DONOVAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2100